

# Arizona Human Trafficking Council Victim Services Committee October 4, 2018 8:00 AM

1700 West Washington Street, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council's Victim Services Committee was convened on October 4, 2018, at 8:00 AM 1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

| Members Present (4                          |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Brian Steele, Chairperson                   |                    |
| Lois Lucas                                  |                    |
| Sarah Beaumont                              |                    |
| Lindsay Ashworth (representing Allie Bones) |                    |
| Staff/Guests Present (3)                    | Members Absent (1) |
| Mark Tetzlaff                               | Cara Christ        |
| Nikki Green                                 |                    |
| Joanna Jauregui                             |                    |
|   |                    |

## Call to Order

• Mr. Brian Steele, Chair, called the Victim Services Committee meeting to order at 8:09 a.m. with four members and three staff and guests present.

## Welcome/Introductions

Mr. Steele, Chair, welcomed everyone and asked all members to introduce themselves.

## **Approval of Minutes**

- Mr. Steele requested a review of the August 23, 2018 meeting minutes
- **Dr. Sarah Beaumont** motioned to approve the August 23, 2018 minutes
- Ms. Lois Lucas seconded the motion
  - The motion passed with no dissenting votes

## Planning for Survivor Feedback

 Mr. Steele discussed plans on engaging survivors for feedback on how to better address gaps in housing, medical, and outreach services. He suggested a survey that could be sent to service providers or a luncheon comprised of a key focus group. Mr. Steele is working with Dr. Dominique Arizona Human Trafficking Council Victim Services Committee 03/27/2018 Meeting Minutes Page **2** of **4** 

- Roe-Sepowitz to develop a survey and hopes to have one completed by the end of the year to report back to the full council.
- Ms. Beaumont stated that there is a value to using both methods, but that from a clinical standpoint, clients receive lots of paperwork, but a survey would provide anonymity. There is also value in a face-to-face platform for those who feel comfortable engaging.
- **Ms. Lucas** stated that doing both would be beneficial and that Catholic Charities has venues to accommodate a focus group, one that survivors are familiar and comfortable with
- Ms. Lindsay Ashworth stated that survivor feedback has been better represented in domestic
  violence situations, and less for sexual violence and agreed that the anonymous feedback would
  be beneficial for data purposes and the possibility of reaching more survivors. She asked if the
  survey would be spread widely and if it would be a point in time survey? Dr. Beaumont stated that
  a longitudinal survey where responses were collected within a month would be preferred.

## **Labor Trafficking**

- Mr. Brian Steele stated the subcommittees initiative for providing meaningful and tangible service
  for victims of labor trafficking. He introduced Mr. Mark Tetzlaff with whom he works on the CAUSE
  Taskforce.
- Mr. Marc Tetzlaff provided an overview of the CAUSE taskforce that is comprised of members from Phoenix Police Department, Homeland Security, FBI, the Department of Labor and service providers; International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Phoenix Dream Center and Street Light. He stated that sex trafficking, by nature, is advertised while labor trafficking remains hidden. Sex trafficking victims are primarily US citizens where labor trafficking victims typically are not, making them harder to identify. In many cases, victims are found in situations of debt bondage or indentured servitude. One barrier to identification is that local law enforcement looks at such cases differently than federal. For example, local law enforcement may identify a case as prostitution, but there may be signs of labor trafficking. Labor trafficking victims can be found in massage parlors, agriculture, elder care homes with victims primarily being foreign nationals who are not aware of their rights. In some instances, they may have come to this country with \$10,000 in debt but their trafficker sells their debt to another trafficker and they now have \$45-100,000 in debt.
- Dr. Beaumont asked what happens once the victims are found? Mr. Tetzlaff provided an example based off of a labor trafficking case in Lake Havasu that was considered a prostitution case. In this instance, the victims were arrested by local law enforcement but had it been a federal case, the only individual who would have been arrested was the perpetrator. The victims of this case were older and the only emergency housing would have been within a domestic violence shelter, which would not have been appropriate. Connecting them to services such as medical care was also difficult because they were over the age of 25. Of the seven victims, four were US citizens, two were legal residents and only one was a Chinese national. The only organization that may have been available to provide services was the IRC and only the Chinese national would have been eligible. He further stated that finding appropriate service providers for male victims was always a challenge. If they are foreign nationals, they can be connected to the IRC, but there are not many options for US citizens.
- Mr. Steele stated that purpose of the subcommittee is to identify gaps in services, and based on the example provided, the gaps in services for victims of labor trafficking are training for law

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- enforcement, housing, and legal services if the victim is arrested. He asked if there are any other service gaps that Mr. Tetzlaff has encountered? **Mr. Tetzlaff** stated that he is able to provide training for law enforcement, non-profit organizations and faith-based organizations on immigration options for foreign victims. If those services are needed, he is able to be contacted as a resource.
- Mr. Steele asked what narrative services providers can adapt to talk to clients who may be foreign nations and do not want to disclose? Mr. Tetzlaff stated that there are various options for immigration relief including the VAWA Visa for victims of domestic violence that includes elder and children victims. For victims of felony-level crimes, there is the U Visa that requires the incident be reported to and involving law enforcement. Finally, there is the T Visa that is strictly for victims of trafficking, law enforcement involvement is requested by not required. Law enforcement such as the FBI and DEA have a vested interest in charging the perpetrator and not just sending foreign national victims back to their country of origin. These agencies, however, cannot guarantee the victim will be eligible, but deferred action as a witness is available.
- Mr. Steele stated that if a homeless youth is undocumented, they are hesitant to seek services for fear of not being qualified and then being identified as undocumented within the system. Mr. Tetzlaff stated that there is a Division of Unaccompanied Children Services (DUCS) that is a part of Homeland Security. The program does not report and is strictly for undocumented unaccompanied children. If they are runaway youth, the program may try to reunify. DUCS provides schooling, housing, and medical care. The challenge with DUCS is that they may be placed anywhere in the country where there is room.

## **Review of Stated Committee Goals**

- Mr. Steele shared the following subcommittee goals and asked for attendee feedback:
  - 1. Expand access to housing, behavioral health, and medical services
  - 2. Develop opportunities to capture and implement survivor driven data
  - 3. Integrate YES Survey data into victim services
  - 4. Develop an engagement toolkit for faith-based and education providers.
  - 5. Identify gaps in services for labor trafficking
- Mr. Tetzlaff stated that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of
  Health and Human Services have campaigns that provide free training materials that can be
  ordered or downloaded and reproduced. The DHS Blue Campaign provides information on how
  NGO and faith-based organizations can assist trafficking victims. Mr. Steele stated that the
  resources would be a great place to start or include in our toolkit.

## **Next Meeting**

• Mr. Steele stated that he would like to schedule another meeting prior to the December 12th full council meeting as well as after survey data is collected from survivors.

#### Call to the Public

N/A

#### Adjourn

• Chairperson Brian Steele called for adjournment at 8:47 a.m.

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Dated October 4, 2018 Arizona Human Trafficking Council Victim Services Committee Respectfully Submitted By: [Name] Program Administrator, GOYFF

